

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A pinion carrier for a planetary gear assembly comprising:

a first cold formed cup-shaped body having an outer surface, an inner surface, and a circumferential side wall with a longitudinal central axis and including a plurality of spaced-apart legs terminating in flat surfaces; and

a second cold formed cup-shaped body having an outer surface, an inner surface, and a circumferential side wall with a longitudinal central axis and including a plurality of spaced-apart legs terminating in flat surfaces;

wherein at least one of said cup-shaped bodies is provided with a centrally formed aperture and including a torque transfer structure circumscribing the aperture and the flat surfaces of the legs of said first and second bodies are in juxtaposed contacting relation and suitably welded together.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A pinion carrier as defined in Claim ~~7~~ 6 wherein said first cup-shaped body and said second cup-shaped body are provided with holes for receiving shafts of associated pinions.

10. (Previously Presented) A pinion carrier as defined in Claim 9 wherein the holes for the pinion are located intermediate said spaced-apart legs.